

cityscene

What's happening in the City of Fairfax

OCTOBER 2021

Fall Festival Returns to Fairfax City



The dog days of summer are behind us, and cooler autumnal weather has arrived. It's time to celebrate the changing of the seasons! On Saturday, Oct. 9, the 45th Annual Fall Festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Old Town Fairfax. The Fall Festival is a family-friendly event, but please leave your pets at home.

University Drive, Main Street, and Sager Avenue will be lined with more than 400 vendors selling artwork, crafts, and gourmet food. Shop for

clothes, dolls, needlework, floral arrangements, glass and ceramic creations, jewelry, and all kinds of artwork.

Enjoy live music and performances on three different stages: the main stage sponsored by Fair City Mall, the Old Town Square stage sponsored by HB Home Services, and the children's stage sponsored by Lidl. *The Perfekt Blend Band* will close the event with a concert from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Old Town Square.

The popular All American Lumberjack Show is back! Watch competitors throw axes, race across floating logs, and wield a variety of very sharp saws. Show times are 10:30 a.m., noon, and 3:30 p.m., with an interactive camp at 1:30 p.m.

Limited parking is available for the event. Free shuttles will be available from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at George Mason University's Rappahannock parking garage and Fairfax High School.

Masks are strongly encouraged but not required. Please do your part to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Parking options and other event information is available online at fairfaxfallfestival.com.

INSIDE CITYSCENE

City News	2
Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety . . .	3
Water's Journey	4
It Takes A Village	4
Major Redevelopment Projects	5
Lifeline Gold Plus EMS Award	6
CUE is for YOU!	6 & 7
Leaf Collection Helps Water Quality . .	8

CITY NEWS

Personal Property Tax Payments Due Oct. 5

Personal property and vehicle registration fee payments are due by Oct. 5. Late payments will incur a 10% penalty, plus interest. How to pay your bill:

- Use the secure drop box at City Hall (on the circular driveway accessible from Armstrong Street)
- Mail (must be postmarked by Oct. 5)
- Online: click on the *Payments* button on the city homepage

To request a copy of your bill, call 703-385-7900 (then press 1). To make changes to your bill, call 703-385-7885. *Reminder: the city issues decals only for vehicles registered at addresses in Residential Parking Permit Districts. Info: fairfaxva.gov, (search "Personal Property Tax")*

Trick or Treat Trail, October 27

Celebrate Halloween with the City P.O.L.I.C.E. along the Trick or Treat Trail, from 6- 8 p.m. Oct. 27 at the police station, 3730 Old Lee Hwy. Cars will drive around the station parking lot, around police vehicles and equipment, and officers will distribute treats.

This event is for Fairfax City residents age 12 and younger, and the child must be present to receive the goodies. Costumes are encouraged, as are face coverings and other appropriate health safety practices. Questions? Email community@fairfaxva.gov. Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Trick or Treat Trail")

Don't Bag It! Curbside Leaf Collection Begins Nov. 1

Curbside leaf collection will be provided Nov. 1 through Dec. 30 in neighborhoods that receive city refuse collection service. Please rake leaves loose to the curb. *Bagged leaves are not collected during this time.* Leaf piles may include light

yard debris in leaf piles (grass clippings and weeds) — but not stones, branches, and other large items, which may injure workers and damage equipment. Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Leaf"), 703-385-LEAF

DMV Select Open by Appointment Only

The DMV Select in Fairfax City Hall offers limited DMV services by appointment only. *Appointments: fairfaxva.gov, 703-385-7880*

Green Acres Fitness Pass

Start living a healthier life today with a Green Acres Fitness Pass. Exercise on your own schedule with cardio equipment, free weights, and a stretching area. The Green Acres Fitness Pass is available for folks age 16-54. Fitness Center hours are 5-9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Cost is \$5 for a one-time drop-in, \$15 per month, or \$96 annually. Personal fitness training sessions with a certified trainer may be purchased for \$25/half hour and \$50/hour. Info: fairfaxva.gov, (search "Green AcresFitness"), 703-273-6090

Prepare for Inclement Weather: Consider Service Providers, Information Services

As winter looms, continue your safety routines: maintain your emergency kits and prepare for the season. Make provisions now for possible winter emergency services, such as snow removal, home repairs, and tree limb management. Family, friends, homeowner associations, and neighbors may offer recommendations.

Find out first! Find out fast! Sign up for Fairfax City Alert for weather-related messages, such as closures and city services updates. To enroll or manage your subscription, click on "City Alert" at the top of every city webpage. Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Winter Weather")



November 2 Election

NOW!

- Vote by mail, or deliver your ballot to the drop box at the City Hall Atrium east entrance.
- Early voting in-person at City Hall Annex, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

October 11

- Final day to register to vote, or update voter registration records, in-person or online. (Info: vote.elections.virginia.gov)

October 22

- Final day to request early voting ballots by mail, 5 p.m.

October 23

- In-person early voting, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., City Hall Annex.

October 30

- Final day for in-person early voting: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., City Hall Annex.

November 2

- Polls open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. — or return your mailed ballot by 7 p.m. to the voting drop box at the City Hall Atrium east entrance.



Stormwater Utility Poll

Rain that falls on impervious surfaces, such as roofs, driveways, and parking lots, creates runoff that the city's stormwater system must manage. Should property owners with more impervious surface area pay more, less, or the same amount for stormwater services than a property owner with less impervious surface area? Visit engage.fairfaxva.gov to take the poll.

SMOKE ALARMS

A Sound You Can Live With



Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety

Check out these smoke alarm safety tips from the City of Fairfax Fire Department.

- A continuous set of three loud beeps—beep, beep, beep—means smoke or fire. Get out, call 911, and stay out.
- A single chirp every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be changed.
- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.
- All smoke alarms must be replaced after 10 years.
- Make sure your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms meet the needs of all your family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.

Rain Barrels Save Water and Money, Reduce Runoff

Rain barrels can be installed under your downspouts to collect and store rainwater for landscaping and other non-potable water needs. One inch of rain on a 1,000 square-foot roof yields more than 620 gallons of water! Rain barrels provide the following benefits:

- **Reduce your water bill.** Using water collected from rain barrels saves the amount of water you use from the tap or faucet.
- **Reduce stormwater runoff.** Without a rain barrel, roof runoff flows over impermeable surfaces and collects pollutants as it flows and drains into the city's stormwater system.
- **Grow healthier plants.** Using rainwater is healthier for your plants. Municipal tap water



contains chlorine, which can be harmful to your plants.

- **Earn credits.** Rain barrels may be considered in the credits program under the proposed stormwater utility

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District offers rain barrel workshops and sells pre-made rain barrels. To download a rain barrel installation guide, visit fairfaxcounty.gov/soil-water-conservation/rain-barrel.

WATER'S JOURNEY

PRESERVING OUR NATURAL RESOURCE

Stormwater and wastewater are managed separately in Fairfax City.

Stormwater flows untreated into the nearest stream.

Wastewater is conveyed to a plant in Lorton to be treated and released into Pohick Creek.

1. BAY/RIVER/RESERVOIR
2. DRINKING WATER TREATMENT PLANTS
3. RESIDENTS/BUSINESSES
4. PUMP STATIONS/SEPTIC TRUCKS
5. WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
6. WATER REUSE FACILITIES
7. NON-POINT SOURCE POLLUTION (OIL, ROAD SALT, LITTER, POO, CLIPPINGS)
8. OUTFALL/STREAM
9. BAY/RIVER/RESERVOIR

WASTEWATER'S PATH

NATURAL SOURCE > TREATMENT > USAGE > CONVEYANCE > TREATMENT > REUSE AND RETURN TO ENVIRONMENT

STORMWATER'S PATH

RAIN AND SNOW > NON-POINT SOURCE POLLUTION > STORM DRAINS > CONVEYANCE > OUTFALL/STREAM > RETURN TO ENVIRONMENT

It Takes a Village



Adobe ©W PRODUCTION

Growing older is hard to do, especially alone. Older adults value their independence and want to remain in their homes for as long as possible. They own their house, planted and watched trees grow with their family, filled photo albums with memories, and know and trust their neighbors. They have cultivated gardens and know which birds visit their feeders. They are active in their faith community and have contributed to their neighborhood for decades. Their house is their home, and they have no desire to move to senior housing or an assisted living facility.

Yet, when their children are grown and have moved away to follow their dreams, friends and neighbors begin to dwindle, and they are not as mobile as they once were, older adults can become isolated and disengaged from support systems that help them remain independent. Some people may find asking for help difficult, and they may be wary of scams. They may need a ride to the

store or doctor's office, need help with home repairs, require technology assistance, or just feel lonely and want to stay plugged into in-person social networks.

The city is establishing a village to assist older residents aging at home. First developed in Boston 20 years ago, the village model relies on a network of volunteers to help older adults age in place by providing at-home support and connecting members to health and social services while keeping people connected to their communities. *Fairfax Village in the City* will build personal connections between neighbors, share useful information, and facilitate access to area resources.

In an AARP Department of Government Affairs policy paper, Ilene Henshaw wrote, "Villages are instrumental in helping people remain in their homes and independent in their communities." AARP found that village members experience reduced isolation,

continued on page 5



It Takes A Village *continued from page 4*

increased independence, and enhanced purpose of life.

The City formed a steering committee to explore how to create a village in the city and to determine what services are most needed. City Council approved funding for a part-time village coordinator under the supervision of the Human Services director. The village coordinator will serve as a liaison to services and oversee the volunteers who run the Fairfax Village in the City. The City will form a board to govern the village.

“Even when multiple services are available through government agencies or private organizations, older adults don’t always know about or take advantage of those services,” says Carolyn Sutterfield, former chair of the Fairfax Area Commission on Aging. “A village

approach – neighbors helping neighbors within a trusted community – is a more effective way to promote needed services, educate older folks and their families on topics they may not have considered, such as home modification, insurance options, advance directives, etc., and connect them with the help their particular situation requires. Connecting is what Fairfax City is all about.”

Residents aged 55 and older are encouraged to take the community survey to help the steering committee determine what services the village should provide. The survey is available online at surveymonkey.com/r/ffxseniorvillage and will be available through Oct. 15. Paper copies are available upon request. Contact Human Services Director Lesley Abashian at 703-385-7894 or email Lesley.Abashian@fairfaxva.gov.



Major Redevelopment Projects Update



Scout on the Circle: Residential occupancy at Scout is 80.5%. Regarding retail, in addition to Giant Food, leases have been signed with Republik Coffee, TeaDM, F45 (fitness studio), Verizon, and Peri Peri.



The Moxley at Kamp Washington: Pre-leasing will begin in November for a slated opening date in mid-December. The remainder of the construction will continue through summer 2022.



Capstone: The residences will be completed and ready for a fall 2022 opening.



CURIOUS CITIZENS

Is DMV Select accepting walk-in customers at City Hall?

No, an appointment is required. Please schedule your visit at least a week in advance. Call 703-385-7880 or schedule your appointment online at fairfaxva.gov (search "DMV Select").

I need to replace the batteries in my smoke alarm. Is assistance available?

Yes, the City of Fairfax Fire Department provides and installs free battery-powered smoke alarms to city residents and will replace the batteries. To schedule an appointment, call 703-385-7830.

CUE is for You!

If driving has lost its luster, and traffic has you stressed, try the CUE Bus and ride free! Did you know 79% of Fairfax City residents live within a 10-minute walk from a CUE Bus stop? Walking to and from the bus stop is invigorating – and your daily steps will add up quickly!

Our buses will keep you cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Every bus is fully accessible, and racks are available for bicycles. Relax while our drivers deliver you to your destination. Read the news, scroll through social media, text with friends and family, catch up on email, or take a little nap. It's up to you on CUE!

Riding CUE will save you money on gas and vehicle maintenance. Reducing single-occupant car rides also reduces carbon emissions. So, where will you go?

Explore! Wander around historic Old Town Fairfax and see the col-

lection of local artifacts at the Fairfax Museum & Visitor Center.

Play! Enjoy pickleball or the playground at Van Dyck Park, or attend a class at Sherwood Community Center.

Shop! Discover unique stores at Kamp Washington, Pickett & Main, Fairfax Circle, Northfax, and in Old Town Fairfax.

Learn! Students and staff can ride the bus to George Mason University and Fairfax City schools.

Commute! Take the bus to the Vienna/Fairfax-GMU Metro Station, or connect to other regional bus services

Eat! There are 39 restaurants in the Old Town area accessible by CUE, and many more along CUE Bus routes citywide.

All surfaces are cleaned regularly. Masks are required on CUE buses. If you forget your mask, don't worry; the driver will provide you one. We're doing our part to keep riders safe. When you're ready, we're ready.

Clip and save the CUE map on page 7 ▶▶▶



HELPING HANDS

THE CITY NEEDS PEOPLE LIKE YOU

BOARD AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

Board of Building Code Appeals (one mechanical or plumbing vacancy),

Board of Zoning Appeals (one vacancy), Commission on the Arts (two city resident vacancies, one George Mason University representative vacancy),

Community Appearance Committee (five resident vacancies, and one garden club representative), **Environmental Sustainability Committee** (one vacancy), Regional – **Fairfax Alcohol Safety Action Program Policy Board** (one vacancy), **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board** (two vacancies), **Personnel Advisory Board** (one vacancy).

To apply, visit fairfaxva.gov and search "boards and vacancies," or call 703-385-7935.

P.R.I.D.E. in Action: 2021 Mission: Lifeline Gold Plus EMS Award

For the second consecutive year, the American Heart and American Stroke Associations recognized the City of Fairfax Fire Department with the 2021 Mission: Lifeline EMS Gold Plus award for applying the most up-to-date, evidence-based treatment guidelines to improve patient care and outcomes in the city.

"This award places us as part of an elite group of prehospital agencies recognized for our commitment and success in implementing higher standards of care by ensuring that every severe heart attack patient receives treatment according to nationally accepted standards and recommendations," said Fire Chief John O'Neal.



The Mission: Lifeline program helps reduce barriers to prompt treatment for heart attacks, starting from when 911 is called, to EMS transport, and continuing through hospital treatment and discharge. Optimal care for heart attack patients takes coordination between the individual hospital, EMS, and healthcare system.

"I continue to be proud of our EMS providers and the services they provide every day to our community," added O'Neal.

LEGEND

Bus routes | Direction of travel
See schedules on back of map.

1 2 1 2 1 2

Redes de buses | Dirección del viaje
Ver horarios en el reverso.

Schedule Insignpost
Punto de tiempo en el horario

Bus stop shelters
Parada cubierta del bus

Bus stops
Parada del bus

Landmark
Punto de interés

©2015, City of Fairfax
Design by Susan Trappo, Knoxville, TN

Mayor David L. Meyer (david.meyer@fairfaxva.gov)

City Council

Joseph D. Harmon (joseph.harmon@fairfaxva.gov)

So P. Lim (so.lim@fairfaxva.gov)

Janice B. Miller (janice.miller@fairfaxva.gov)

D. Thomas Ross (tom.ross@fairfaxva.gov)

Jon R. Stehle Jr. (jon.stehle@fairfaxva.gov)

Sang H. Yi (sang.yi@fairfaxva.gov)

City Manager Rob Stalzer (rob.stalzer@fairfaxva.gov)



contact us
WeCare@fairfaxva.gov

- Large Print
- Recorded
- Braille

Cityscene is mailed to city residents and businesses by the first of the month and published on the city website. It is published by the Communications and Marketing Office to inform the public of government actions and events of interest in the city. Information is subject to change after publication.

Cityscene is available in large print, Braille, and audio upon request.

Para solicitar ayuda con servicios de la ciudad o preguntas sobre esta publicación, por favor llame al 703.385.7800.

본 간행물과 관련하여 문의 사항이 있으시면

☎ 703-385-7800 (으)로 전화 주시기 바랍니다.

Follow us:
@CityofFairfaxVA



To report a problem or request a service, please use Fairfax City Resolve. Look for the "Report" button on fairfaxva.gov.



Leaf Collection Helps Water Quality



The City offers curbside leaf collection twice a year – in spring and autumn – in neighborhoods that receive city refuse and recycling service. These leaves are transported to a facility where they are processed into 100% natural, organic mulch.



The Most Popular Arts & Crafts Show in the Greater Metropolitan Washington DC Area!

35th Annual
Holiday Craft Show

Saturday & Sunday
November 20 & 21, 2021
Fairfax High School
3501 Lion Run

\$5 per day or \$8/two-day pass (under 18 years old free)

Leaf collection in the fall months reduces the amount of phosphorus and nitrogen that enter local waterways. Excessive amounts of nutrients can cause eutrophication, or the depletion of oxygen in water, resulting in reduced water quality for

aquatic life.

Remember "Only Rain Down the Storm Drain" is crucial to make sure pollutants do not enter our streams and to help prevent blockages in stormwater infrastructure.

Info: fairfaxva.gov (Search "Leaf")